



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Eddie Lard, Direct Communications
205-746-3274 | eddie@dcwins.com

**Walmart Celebrates Anniversary of Veterans Welcome Home
Commitment with Announcement of 3,908 Veteran Hires in Alabama**

Company has hired 130,828 veterans nationwide since commitment began in May of 2013

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 24, 2016 – Today, Walmart announced it has hired 130,828 veterans since it announced its Veterans Welcome Home Commitment in May 2013*, including 3,908 in the state of Alabama. Of those 130,828 veteran hires, 15,176 have been promoted to jobs with higher pay and greater responsibility, including 412 in Alabama.

"I heard about Walmart being veterans-friendly, and when I sent out applications, Walmart was the first to get back to me," said John Mark Hunter, who was discharged from the U.S. Marines in October 2015 and began work in March as an overnight stocker at the Walmart Supercenter in Gardendale. "I've really enjoy working here," the Hayden native said. "The people are very friendly, and I've made a lot of friends."

Hunter, 25, served two seven-month tours in Afghanistan as a tank commander. "My military experience has helped me with managing my tasks and making sure I get everything done the right way and in a timely manner," he said.

On Memorial Day 2013, Walmart introduced the [Veterans Welcome Home Commitment](#), which guaranteed a job offer to any eligible, honorably discharged U.S. veteran who was within 12 months of active duty. The initial goal was to hire 100,000 veterans by the end of 2018. In May of 2015, [Walmart announced the expansion](#) of that original projection, with the goal of hiring 250,000 veterans by the end of 2020. Walmart has also changed the eligibility from within 12 months of active duty, to any veteran who has been honorably discharged since the announcement of the commitment in May 2013.

Despite unemployment among veterans being at its lowest in eight years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, veterans from the Gulf War era continue to be under- or unemployed.

"As a veteran, I know how critical it is for our men and women in uniform to have a strong support structure when transitioning back to civilian life," said Retired Brigadier General, Gary Profit, senior director of military programs for Walmart. "A job is an important part of that transition, and at Walmart, we're proud to use our strengths as one of the nation's largest employers to be a part of that bridge back home by providing meaningful opportunities to 3,900 veterans, and counting, in Alabama to use their unique talent and skills. Veterans are among some of our strongest associates and we are pleased to see the growth and success they have achieved at Walmart."

[The Walmart Foundation's Commitment to Veterans and Military Families](#)

Beyond Walmart's Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, the Walmart Foundation is also reinforcing its support for transitioning military members and their families with the announcement of \$2.6 million in grants to nonprofit organizations that support veteran reintegration – The American GI Forum and Swords to Plowshares:

- Texas-based **American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program**, which stabilizes veterans through housing and job assistance among other services, will receive a \$1 million grant for employment placement assistance.

- **Swords to Plowshares** will receive a \$1.6 million grant to enhance innovative employment and training programs at the California Veterans Employment and Training Collaborative and the Texas Veterans Employment and Training Collaborative.

For more information about Walmart's Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, please visit: <http://www.walmartcareerswithamission.com> and follow @WalmartToday on Twitter.

###

*Editor's Note: These projections and reported hires/promotions include veterans hired under our original and expanded Commitment as well as other veterans hired by Walmart in this time frame. While we think it is particularly important to support soldiers as they make the transition to civilian life, Walmart believes all veterans deserve our respect and support, no matter when they left active duty.

About Walmart

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) helps people around the world save money and live better - anytime and anywhere - in retail stores, online, and through their mobile devices. Each week, nearly 260 million customers and members visit our more than 11,600 stores under 72 banners in 28 countries and e-commerce websites in 11 countries. With fiscal year 2015 revenue of \$485.7 billion, Walmart employs approximately 2.2 million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporate philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting <http://corporate.walmart.com> on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/walmart> and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/walmart>.

About Philanthropy at Walmart

By using our strengths to help others, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation create opportunities for people to live better every day. We have stores in 28 countries, employing more than 2.2 million associates and doing business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. We are helping people live better by accelerating upward job mobility and economic development for the retail workforce; addressing hunger and making healthier, more sustainably-grown food a reality; and building strong communities where we operate and inspiring our associates to give back. Whether it is helping to lead the fight against hunger in the United States with \$2 billion in cash and in-kind donations or supporting Women's Economic Empowerment through a series of grants totaling \$10 million to the Women in Factories training program in Bangladesh, China, India and Central America, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are not only working to tackle key social issues, we are also collaborating with others to inspire solutions for long-lasting systemic change. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit <http://www.foundation.walmart.com>.